

## ESCANABA TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 12, 2022 7:30 PM

ESCANABA TOWNSHIP HALL 4618 CO 416 20<sup>TH</sup> RD GLADSTONE MI 49837

Supervisor Tom Rymkos called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm and followed with recital of the Pledge of Allegiance. Treasurer Kim Knauf-Wycoff presented a prayer.

Verbal Roll Call: Present are Clerk Theresa Chenier, Treasurer Kim Knauf-Wycoff, Supervisor Tom Rymkos, Trustee, Al Gareau Trustee Norm Fleury. All members are present.

**Motion made by Trustee Gareau to accept previous month, August 8, 2022, minutes with correction to read Platted Lot Division. Second by Treasurer Knauf-Wycoff. All in favor. Motion passed.**

Financial Report was reviewed and discussed. **Trustee Gareau made motion to transfer \$4500.00 from Contingency Fund to Election Supply Fund. Second by Treasurer Knauf-Wycoff. All in favor. Motion passed. Treasurer Knauf-Wycoff made a motion to transfer \$500.00 from Contingency Fund to Cemetery Supply Fund. Trustee Gareau second. All in favor. Motion passed. Motion to approve the Financial Report made by Clerk Chenier. Second by Trustee Gareau. All in favor. Motion passed.**

Supervisor Rymkos presented a letter he received from the Gladstone Public Library. The Library's fiscal year is July 1, 2022 through June 31, 2023. **Motion to submit \$3200.00 to the Gladstone Public Library made by Treasurer Knauff-Wycoff. Second by Clerk Chenier. All in favor. Motion passed.** Mr. Rymkos also presented a letter from CUPPAD regarding Hazard Litigation Plan. He requested the Board review and have any questions prepared for next meeting. There is valuable training available in the areas of Broad Band, Show Me the Money, and Planning and Zoning are topics he feels the Board would benefit from. Seminar dates are October 4 and 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022 in Marquette, Michigan. September 20, 2023 is deadline for registration. Board was instructed to contact Clerk Chenier if interested in attending.

PUBLIC COMMENTS; John Miron

Fire Chief Matt Rian reported there were 2 fire calls last month. One mutual aid with City of Escanaba and Rivers 22<sup>nd</sup> Rd fire call. Truck #6 is in Grayling for repairs and should be returned within a week. Truck #5 pump tested. He is implementing a Beard policy. He requested a legal review of the by-law wording. He will confer with Clerk Chenier to proceed. Request was made for Truck #5 to attend the September 28, 2022 Honor Flight at the Delta County Airport and September 15, 2022 Torch Run to display the US Flag at the finish line. October 21, 2022 approximately 40 home schooled children will be attending a walk-through. Truck #1 failed testing of a vacuum leak. The 2% Hannahville Grant is due September 30, 2022. He is prepared for the grant submission. Uses for the grant would purchase flash lights for helmets and uniforms. A live fire burn class that was attended by 14 people. Mr. Rian presented pictures of the fire trucks to the Board. **Clerk Chenier made the motion to approve Fire trucks #1 and #5 to be present at the September 15, 2022 Torch Run and Truck #5 at the September 28, 2022 Honor Flight. Clerk Knauf-Wycoff second. All in favor. Motion passed**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Bids are being accepted to remove shrubs from around the Escanaba Township Hall. Ball field bleacher options are being researched. Carpet installation on the west side entry steps of the Township Hall is scheduled for September 21, 2022. Audit completion should be in October. The ARPA funds need a budgeted plan by December 2024 and spent by December 2026. The Residents are encouraged to submit any suggestions of how to apply these funds in the township. Verso Grow waste product had no further updates at this time. The township bidding policy discussion was tabled until next month. Independent Roofing will complete an inspection of the Township Hall roof. **Motion to commit to a 1 year contract with I AM RESPONDING for the fire department was made by Trustee Fleury. Second by Clerk Knauf-Wycoff. All in favor. Motion passed.**

NEW BUSINESS: Treasurer Clerk sent a bill to UPPCO for fire caused by down power lines. UPPCO Rep contracted Supervisor Rymkos and it was discussed that UPPCO would be considered a mutual aid agreement partner. Blight complaint received for a property in the Flat Rock Grocery area. Supervisor Rymkos will check on the situation.

Representatives from High Line Internet were present. Smart Rural Community metro permit was discussed. The Board was asked to cash the check they received and complete the form for permitting. AEG will be calling with any explanations needed. The township is eligible to receive signs to place in the community displaying high speed internet is available in the area. The Public was encouraged to ask any questions. The installation cost is \$99 which includes a free router. Service is then \$99 a month. You can join in or cancel at any time. No contract required.

Form L-4029 needs approval and return to Delta County Equalization. **Motion was made by Trustee Gareau to approve Form L-4029. Second by Treasurer Knauf-Wycoff. All in favor. Motion passed.**

Clerk Chenier announced there needs to be payroll forms completed by all employees including the fire department.

Ray Hughes addressed the board as a representative of the Gladstone Cross Country Running Team. They are requesting a Large Gathering Permit for three meets to be held at the Farm House located at 8563 Co 416 20<sup>th</sup> Rd Gladstone, MI on October 4, 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022. Supervisor Rymkos requested a map and showing the parking along with a meet schedule. **Motion was made by Trustee Gareau to schedule a Public Hearing on October 3, 2022 at 6pm for Large Gathering Permit request consideration. Second by Treasurer Knauf-Wycoff. All in favor. Motion passed.** (Hearing to be held at the Township Hall 4618 Co 416 20<sup>th</sup> Rd Gladstone, MI)

PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS: Clerk Chenier gave a reminder of the education available. Both Clerk Chenier and Treasurer Knauf-Wycoff ensured that there has been no burning of any documents that needed to be retained. They have been working diligently and files are in order.

Clerk Chenier gave the Planning Commission Liaison report: On September 6, 2022 the meeting was a hearing on the Proposed Draft Solar Ordinance. There were threatening accusations made by 2 attendees that required a call to 911 to provide security. A Special Meeting is scheduled for September 14, 2022 at 7 pm at the Township Hall to continue. ZBA Hearing agenda and minutes are in the Board's packets. The August 23, 2022 ZBA minutes state that the Escanaba Township Zoning map is not correct. **Treasurer Knauf-Wycoff made a motion to have the Planning Commission review zoning and decide if zoning amendment is necessary for properties at issue from the ZBA Hearing. Second by Trustee Fleury. All in favor. Motion passed.**

Delta County Commissioners Report was presented by Commissioner Bob Barron. He acknowledge the County is working to correct the address discrepancies for fire signs. The county may repeal zoning and pass it on to the townships.

At 9:21 pm the Board began proceedings to pay bills until 9:41 pm.

**Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Treasurer Knauf-Wycoff at 9:42 pm. Second by Trustee Gareau. All in favor. Motion passed.**

Next meeting of the Escanaba Township Board is scheduled for October 10, 2022 7:30 pm Escanaba Township Hall 4618 County 416 20<sup>th</sup> Rd Gladstone, MI 49837.

Minutes prepared by Cathy Culliton, Recording Secretary

